

From: Mike Scheidler
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 1:49pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern,

I feel that the terms of settlement outlined in the Proposed Final Judgment are grossly inadequate. They do little to punish Microsoft for its past monopolistic actions and allow too many loopholes to keep them from continuing these practices in the future.

As a computer professional with over 20 years of experience, I have seen firsthand the effect Microsoft has had on the computing environment. Through their predatory business practices, undisclosed file and interface formats (APIs), and tying of applications to the operating system, Microsoft has run its competitors out of business and practically eliminated the consumer's choice of software products in all of the major application categories. This should never have been allowed to happen. To make matters worse, they are currently looking to extend their domination to the area of online services. For the good of the entire world, this cannot be permitted!

Any settlement in this case should do much more to punish Microsoft for its past actions. In my opinion, a harsh punishment (perhaps monetary) is essential to make them less likely to engage in predatory practices. Also, any settlement must be forward-looking enough to ensure that they can't continue to thwart healthy competition in the future. The current PFJ does neither of these.

Please reject the proposed settlement.

Sincerely,

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